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**UTILITY
PATENT APPLICATION
TRANSMITTAL**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR § 1.53(b))

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004002-003471.DAC.268346
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Attorney Docket No.	4002-3471/PC689.02
First Inventor	Charles L. Branch
Title	INSTRUMENTS AND METHODS FOR MINIMALLY INVASIVE TISSUE RETRACTION AND SURGERY
Express Mail Label No.	EV 394 105 990 US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

1. *Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. Specification [Total Pages 39]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
 - Descriptive title of the Invention
 - Cross References to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix or computer program listing appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
4. Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 22]
 Informal Formal
5. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 4]
 a. Newly executed (original or copy)
- b. Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
- i. **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s)
named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§
1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

7. CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
 - a. Computer Readable Form (CRF)
 - b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
 - i. CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
 - ii. paper
 - c. Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement (*when there is an assignee*) Power of Attorney
11. English Translation Document (if applicable)
12. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Copies of IDS Citations
13. Preliminary Amendment
14. Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
15. Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i).
Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
17. Other: _____

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No: 10/180,658

Prior application information: Examiner: Pedro Philogene

Group / Art Unit: 3732

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

<input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number:	OR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below			
Name	Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty, McNett & Henry LLP				
Address	Bank One Center/Tower 111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700				
City	Indianapolis	State	IN	Zip Code	46204-5137
Country	USA	Telephone	(317) 634-3456	Fax	(317) 637-7561
Name (Print/Type)	Douglas A. Collier	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)			43,556
Signature	<i>Douglas A. Collier</i>			Date	March 3, 2004

Express Mail Label Number EV 394 105 990 US**Date of Deposit March 3, 2004**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR Section 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Douglas A. Collier
Signature of person mailing paper or fee

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS: SEND TO: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

U.S. PTO
FEE TRANSMITTAL
FOR FY 2004

Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

004002-003471.DAC.268344
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Charles L. Branch
Group Art Unit	

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

Total Amount of Payment (\$)**1368.00**

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

4002-3471/PC689.02

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Check Credit card Money Other None Order

Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number **23-3030**

Deposit Account Name **Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty,
McNett & Henrv LLP**

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

- Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application, excluding the payment of issue fees
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Fee Code	Entity Fee (\$)	Small Fee Code	Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	770	2001	385	Utility Filing Fee	770
1002	340	2002	170	Design Filing Fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant Filing Fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue Filing Fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional Filing Fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)					(\$770)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	51	-20** =	31	Extra Claims	Fee From Below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims	3	-3** =	0	X	18	558
Multiple Dependent				X		=

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description		
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	**Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	**Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2)				

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)
1051	130	2051	65
1052	50	2052	25
1053	130	1053	130
1812	2,520	1812	2,520
1804	920*	1804	920*
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*
1251	110	2251	55
1252	420	2252	210
1253	950	2253	475
1254	1,480	2254	740
1255	2,010	2255	1,005
1401	330	2401	165
1402	330	2402	165
1403	290	2403	145
1451	1,510	1451	1,510
1452	110	2452	55
1453	1,330	2453	665
1501	1,330	2501	665
1502	480	2502	240
1503	640	2503	320
1460	130	1460	130
1807	50	1807	50
1806	180	1806	180
8021	40	8021	40
1809	770	2809	385
1810	770	2810	385
1801	770	2801	385
1802	900	1802	900
Other Fee (specify)			
* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid			
SUBTOTAL (3)			
(\$ 40)			

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Douglas A. Collier	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	43,556	Telephone	(317) 634-3456
Signature	<i>Douglas A. Collier</i>		Date	March 3, 2004	

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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